

sensations and/or the temperature of massage oil to accommodate a person's massage needs on a particular day. Furthermore, the hands of the masseuse are adaptable to fit almost every size person.

A massage applied by a professional masseuse is almost universally considered wonderful. However, the cost of having a professional masseuse constantly on call for periodic massages is outside most people's budgets. For many, a massage by a professional masseuse is only an occasional indulgence although our active lives justify more frequent massages.

In the past, massaging devices have been developed for relaxation and leisure purposes. These massaging devices generally function in a vibratory manner to create a vibrating sensation on various muscles of the body. However, these vibratory devices are generally not as satisfying as a human massage because, among other reasons, they do not provide a comparable amount of pressure, and they often create an undesired tingling sensation on the user's skin.

Also in the past, compression devices have been developed for medical purposes. These prior art compression devices are generally used in a hospital setting where trained medical personnel are available to insure proper functioning of the device and a proper fit of the garments/sleeves on the patient. Such prior art compression devices use very large inflatable bladders which cover large areas of a limb, their control units are large and cumbersome, and they operate to provide a very slow massaging action (for example, on the order of tens of seconds to inflate each bladder) and thus do not provide a dynamic massaging effect.

Additionally or alternatively, in such a medical setting, it may be practical to have an inventory of sleeves/garments of different sizes to accommodate a variety of patient sizes. Further, the size and appearance of inflation tubing and/or the complexity of the set-up of such tubing does not present any issues in a medical setting, where a trained medical professional is present or